

XARZ 28827

1 September 1944

To: Dr. R. M. MacLeod  
From: Blahoslav Hruby  
Subject: General Lev Prehala

General L. Prehala, 51 years old, is the highest ranking Czechoslovak General abroad (four stars) and according to general opinion one of the best Czechoslovak soldiers. He was one of the few opposed to the acceptance of the "Munich-Diktat" and was the first to organize Czechs and Slovaks in a legion against Hitler. Since that time in France and especially in Great Britain, there has developed a tension between Prehala and Dr. Benes. General Prehala was engaged in political activities of the Czechoslovak National Council which contested the legality of the Presidency of Dr. Benes and emphasized a western orientation against the pact with Russia. Since the fall of Poland, Prehala has not been given a chance to be useful and is on permanent leave from the Czechoslovak Army with an allowance of \$40 a month.

He has expressed to me his desire to do something for the Allies and particularly for the U.S. We did not discuss exact details of what he could do as this first should be considered by our office. It seems to me that an offer from the U.S. giving General Prehala a chance to be useful now could bring results of some political importance in the future as General Prehala is still a young man and may yet play an important role in Czechoslovakia.

The problem of engaging General Prehala without injuring our relations with the Czechoslovak Government is delicate, but it can be done if it is well presented to the Czechs. On the other hand, the Czechs may consider this as an opportunity to settle peacefully the problem of Prehala in much the same manner as they are settling the problem of Hodza and others.

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